

November 13, 1968

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford Medical Center
Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

You probably will not remember me. I am the party to whom you spoke on the telephone a few months ago--regarding certain points of genetics as they are involved in the racial situation here in the United States. I would like to tell you again how much I (and everyone in our group of the Committee for Social Justice) appreciated your thoughtfulness in giving us the advantage of your knowledge.

Your column of November 3 in the San Francisco Sunday Chronicle and Examiner treats so directly--one could say exactly--on the main theme of the work of Teilhard de Chardin (evolution of man, and his "aggressiveness") that I could not resist sending you a copy of a little introductory booklet on Teilhard.

Generally I feel embarrassed taking it upon myself to send material of this kind to a man of your eminence in his field. But, it occurred to me that it might be easy for a scientist and doctor such as yourself to be unfamiliar with Teilhard's work. Teilhard is a man who must be thought of more as a philosopher and prophet than a man of science. Although he was a practicing paleontologist.

If you are familiar with Teilhard de Chardin's work--please forgive me, Dr. Lederberg, for calling your attention to it unnecessarily.

With all best wishes--and again thank you for your help some months ago--

Sincerely,



(Mrs.) Laura M. Taylor

100 Belvedere Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070

You may notice this booklet was published by the Paulist Press in New Jersey. Please do not deduce from this that it was written from the standpoint of Catholicism or of any religion. It is a reprint edition of a booklet originally published by independent presses in Germany and later in Ireland. It is the same, word for word as the German and Irish ones; I, myself, proof read the text to make sure. Teilhard, by a quirk of fate, was a Jesuit priest.